

Meeting Description: Michigan Geographic Framework Users Meeting

Date: February 3, 2005

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Location: Michigan Center for Geographic Information, George W. Romney Building, 10th Floor, Conference Room

- I. Approval of Meeting Minutes
- II. Geographic Framework Program
 - A. Framework Activities Update

Rob Surber, Center for Geographic Information (CGI), we have been working on a coordinated effort to keep a vector based base map current with commonly needed themes like Transportation, Hydro and Boundaries and the attributions about them. There is an annual referencing release that we produce in the spring. It will come out in two stages. The Version 5A release is planned for the end of March. It will include the complete referencing updates, the ACT 51 program, the road certification program, and the boundary and annexation changes that have occurred through out the past year through December 31, 2004 which include counties, cities, townships, villages and federal aide urban boundaries. In addition to the GIS users in the State, it will also support any linear referencing system version migration. There is a complete change transaction file for the referencing between last year and this year. It will also support the transportation management system referencing loads. It supports the final sufficiency load, which is the road rating system for the trunk line. It will also support the Crash Project between the State Police, Department of State and Transportation Department for the data integration project. This project manages road accident data. There is a delivery date of March 21, 2005.

Version 5B is to be released sometime in May. This will include no changes in the referencing system, but we will add some additional attributions from the National functioning class. There will be jurisdictional updates on the remaining polygon features that we support in the base map. This release will also support the Transportation Asset Management Council data collection activities. This should allow ample time for Michigan Tech to integrate with their road soft product.

There was a question regarding more versions (C, D & E) what would those versions be regarding? These versions are usually related to some additional attribution in a program area that didn't get in on time. They need to be integrated with the referencing, but it is out of our hands as to when these arrive.

Rob (CGI) we are making adjustments to our base mapping process. There is a new identification system that is going to allow us to do dated releases of this product for various purposes. This will be our first release this year. One of our challenges, from the vector standpoint is that we want the partnership to be mutually beneficial. When updates are presented to us in the base map program, we would like to get those in as soon as possible and then back to you. The implication is that later this year we will have the ability to cut a dated release for you. It will be a specialty release. This should give incentive to get the information in, so that we can get it back to you. Another point to the process is the feedback we've been receiving. We appreciate all of the participants who have provided updates, feedback, comments, changes and suggestions to this process. It couldn't succeed without your help. 911 Groups, local County Road Commissions, and the list goes on of those who have participated. We would like to say, "Thanks."

Everett Root, Center for Geographic Information (CGI) we have completed the ACT 51 maps, except the City of Detroit and those will be done by Friday. They have been printed and sent to Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) for review and after they have been passed by that review, they are mailed to the cities and villages. All of the counties maps went out in January.

Rob (CGI) this process is the State funding of the local road system. We are integrating that into a Geographic Information Technology (GIT) process.

B. Digital Ortho Update

Rob (CGI) we have been working with Southeast Michigan Council of Government (SEMCOG) project. The State is a partner and Earthdata is working with them in that particular project. We are hoping to get some state to county contracts in place. The United States Geological Survey (USGS) has come on board with this project as well. This fits in well with the overall imagery program we are working on here at the State. It is a 5 year cycle to collect State dollars to fund partnerships around the State. We would like to have regional or county level projects that we can partner with that would complete the state every 5 years. The State would be interested in coming to the table to be a partner. That would allow all State agencies rights to use. It would protect the county or regions investments if they wanted to sell their product. Would encourage counties or participants to establish an enhanced access policy if you intend to get cost recovery with your products.

Discussion regarding sample contract language and what is available and also, how to get other counties involved in partnering with the State. Need to have a unified message and be able to answer questions that may arise regarding partnership.

Question arose regarding the NAIP Program (National Agricultural Inventory Program), CGI has been working with Michigan State University (MSU) and the Land Use Leadership Council on a cooperative partnership with The Soil Conservation Service and The Farms Service Agency to do a fly over for the Summer Leaf On Program (part of NAIP summer program.) This will be a 1-meter leaf on for the whole state. There is a verbal commitment between different departments within the state to reach the \$400,000 dollars needed to fund the project.

C. National Inventory Number Application

Rob (CGI) this is related to the Rail Crossing Database. There is a number and a lot of information about railroad crossings. A web application has been developed to allow a complete review of those numbers and certification of the numbers by field engineers. There will be a demo at a later date. The application is ready just needs the inspection done.

D. QVF Project

Rob (CGI) the Qualified Voter File (QVF) Project, this is related to the Help America Vote Act, a National program to reengineer the election process after the 2000 Florida Election. The approach we are taking in Michigan is to completely integrate GIT process into the voter registration process. It includes keeping track of every address in the State related to a Geo location. That could cross reference to election geography, legislative districts, etc. for precinct reporting, for creating poll lists, registration cards and everything that goes with that.

We have just now completed working on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for a more formal project. There are a number of counties that we are working with processes for local participation.

Everett Root (CGI) there was a Mid-Winter Conference for County Officials regarding QVF to the map idea. There was discussion on how to educate the clerks with the process of Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

There was discussion about finding ways to look at creative ideas to get counties to partner with local GIS agencies. There were questions regarding how this is helping the school districts. School elections are run separately from General Elections. School boundaries do not follow jurisdictional boundaries. So, there are combinations of school districts that cross over into different jurisdictional boundaries. The law went into effect to align them to work with the General election process. There are a lot of logistical details that need to be worked out, which take time. GIS can assist in this process. This particular information will be provided and updated in Framework and will be available for a lot of other applications such as private roads. There have been discussions to create a State Master Point File for address ranges. It will require a lot of daily maintenance. So, it must be aligned with other projects that can help fund and sustain it.

III. MDNR Projects & Activities

Rob (CGI) - I have reported on the Phase II Boundary Review in previous sessions where they are completely reviewing the state ownership of lands and deciding what to do with them. They may be holding public hearings at a location near you, so keep that in mind. Our system that we have developed is helping with the GIT end of that with providing maps.

A. Telemetry Project

Rob (CGI), we are assisting the MDNR with a new mapping project within the Wolf and Moose Program in the Wildlife division. They are reviewing now a new Internet map service that will link the tracking of Moose and Wolf locations. It holds a lot of promise in the program areas that want to track certain things such as fish stocking trucks.

IV. MDOT Projects and Activities

Joyce Newell, Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), we have had some data that has come in from the last drive for Federal Aide Roads to give to the Asset Management Council. Gil Chesbro (MDOT) had presented that yesterday at a meeting. The next initiative related to Framework would be for the next fiscal year to all Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) and the Regional planning organizations to put together a traffic counting program. This is needed for our Federal aide reporting. Part of our funding from Washington is based upon the traffic that we report. So far, we are basing it on our estimates that have come from the 1980's needs file that we have grown from growth statistics. We need to update our files and are asking the regions and MPO's to assist us with a 3 to 5 year count program to establish count based Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT's) on the Federal Aide System. We need to take out every Federal road segment and put it in the homogeneous grouping based on number of lanes, what Metropolitan area it is in, what functional class it is and then break it out by AADT range. Then we can decide what sample sizes from each of those groupings to send to Washington. The samples sent in to Washington determine our funding for the roads. It is a major initiative for the next 1 or 2 years.

Rob (CGI) the Asset Management Council has been working with CGI in developing an Internet map tool that is going to update information. In understanding asset management there are times when things get deteriorated and it needs to be fixed. There needs to be condition information – PASER data (Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating) and what work needs to be done and making sure you can relate that to the same chunk or part of the road that needs improving. Our office has been asked to develop an investment data collection tool that will allow people to put in the type of fixes and reference them into the base map. A portion of that information will be going to the strategic planning for the statewide Asset Management Council. Basically it will be a look at scenarios, tell the Legislature this is where the roads are going at the current funding level, here is what they would do if we upped the road funding, this sort of thing. We are finishing the database design. We have successfully been able to incorporate the routing component. We are working on the interface development. We have finished the log in authentication module. The reporting is going to be in map form as well as reports. It will be Internet based so that the user will not have to install anything. It will link to the version of the Framework to fit in with the referencing. It can also be imported into things like Road Soft or get information out of Road Soft into this. It will be a baseline tool for communities to use. It will provide a nice dataset to do project planning. There should be an up and running version for review on March 15, 2005 and it will be unveiled at the County Road Association of Michigan (CRAM) Conference in Lansing. It will also be demonstrated at the Michigan Municipal League Conference on March 23, 2005 at the Lansing Center. From Mid-March to Mid-April, it will be a chance for the communities to test it and provide feedback. From Mid-April to Mid-May, CGI will be putting on the finishing touches from that feedback.

V. MDEQ Projects and Activities

David Slayton, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, (MDEQ) we have been working on the underground storage tank project.

Rob (CGI) we have been participating on a new project to refine and clean up the underground storage tanks. This application is Federally funded through Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Ultimately, we will get better information. It will have Internet mapping applications.

VI. MSP Projects and Activities

A. Michigan Homeland Security GIS Advisory Committee

Rob (CGI) reported for Eric Swanson (CGI) Homeland Security GIS Advisory Committee. We provided a series of recommendations based on surveys from the GIT component of Homeland Security. We presented that to the Homeland Security Council. It was received very favorably. There was a lot of good feedback. Since that time we have worked with Captain John Ort of the Michigan State Police (MSP) to finalize the request that went to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). There was about a 2 million dollar request for GIT activity this year. The State gets part of that money for DHS. It is earmarked for various components and GIT has gotten a slice of that. It has to be finalized. We will reconvene in March.

VII. MDCH

Mike Hass, Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) we met with CGI and firmed up commitments on Arc IMS. MDCH has a disease-reporting program that is Internet based and is used by local public health. As part of that application there is Arc

IMS ability to map the cases for local health officials. We are in the process of tightening it up. It has been running since Mid-July.

VIII. MSI Projects and Activities

Charles Bender, Michigan State Industry (MSI), we have completed 62 lakes for the Department of Natural Resources. Their funding was exhausted. We still have 28 lakes yet to do for them. We will go ahead and do them and when funds become available we will release them at that time. We have completed all of the As Built work that is available for MDOT. We will coordinate with them to acquire some additional work. The Lake project - MDNR provides us with TIF Files of the lakes themselves. We digitize them and provide outlines of the lakes. By linking layers together we can show different bottom types, different vegetation, dead heads, which direction the water flows, and the various depths of the water. It takes about 30 to 45 minutes to complete one lake. There were close to 3000 lakes within the state that they were going to look at doing over a period of time. We have done about 120 lakes and CGI has done some lakes as well. When it is completed the data will be up on the web site. There are some scans that are available on the MrBiz web site and are on the pull down list of MDNR web site for lakes.

IX. CGI Projects and Activities

A. Route Server Migration to Arc IMS 9

Rob (CGI), we are working on the migration of a route server module for a lot of our functions. It needs to be migrated to the Arc IMS9. We are working on a project now to do that and we are getting some contract assistance.

X. MSU Remote Sensing and GIS Research and Outreach Services Projects and Activities

Justin Booth, Michigan State University (MSU), we have training at the end of the month. I have material on the Arc GIS, Raster and Vector Training and Cartography classes that we are holding at the end of the month. The information is on the web site and I have some print outs as well.

Kathleen Weessies, MSU – the IMAGIN (Improving Michigan's Access to Geographic Information) newsletter committee wants to encourage people to submit member news. We want to expand that part of the newsletter. Emphasis if there is a deadline because it takes a number of weeks to put it together. You may contact Brooks Kelly, Laurie Spencer, or myself. We would be happy to except any ideas for featured articles.

XI. County/Local Projects and Activities

Rosemary Anger, Barry County – we are updating our Hydrology 2004 Digital Ortho's. That is prep work on up dating the 2004 land use layer. We have our 319 group on our river shed and our master land use-planning group that both want this product. We are dealing with black and white aerial photography.

Bob Carra, Genesee County – we are working with CGI to update the Framework. We have provided them with some data including our aerial photos, parcels, and address information to bring the Framework up to date. We will be using that in place of our own road centerline file. Aside from that, we are looking at a product call Pictomotry. It basically looks at Digital Ortho Photos for the whole county in oblique images. We are looking at a multi-function agreement between the local communities and county agencies. Right now it is in the research stage.

Valdis Kalnins, Allegan County – we also did an Ortho Acquisition last year in April. It was very successful. We were able to leverage our digital elevation modal from a prior year. We have also been working on a point address database. We put 36,000 addresses in. We took the Qualified Voter File (QVF) and matched each voter to each address. We had about a 70% match rate. We have had someone working on this for a while and we are over halfway. We can take the voter attributes from the election geography and see which ones are coded properly or improperly. It is very evident where street index records are incorrectly coded. We are going to go through a big reconciliation process with QVF, the MSAG (Master Street Index Guide), the Postal Service, and Zip + 4 Files. Trevor Floyd, St. Clair County – we are still rolling out Arc IMS 9. We are working out all the issues with XP, Arc 9 and with Service Pact 2; some of the software doesn't run right with service pact 2. We are testing IMS on the website, but when we tested it, it crashed the dual servers set up to run the Arc IMS. Unless the Arc IMS site is locked down, it will let any Arc map application pass right through. ESRI said that is the way they designed it. They recommended running 2 IMS applications.

Roger Belknap, Kent County – We are involved with the Regis Agency. We are migrating customized Arc view 3.x environment to Arc 9.

XII. Regional Projects and Activities

Steve Stepek, West Michigan Regional Planning Commission (WMRPC) working on getting Asset Management going in their area.

Dan Dillanger, Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (TCRPC) in finalizing our 2005 partnerships for Regional fly over, we will be doing 6-inch color in the spring.

XIII. Federal Projects and Activities

Gordon Rector, US Bureau of Census (Census), the 2004 release of the TIGER Line Files came out last week. In Michigan there are 46 counties that reflect the repositioning work that the Census Bureau is doing this decade, which utilized the Framework files. If you go the Census website: www.census.gov, there is a list of which counties are newly repositioned and which ones are not. The next release of TIGER (Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding and Referencing) should have a lot more of the Michigan repositioned counties. The Bureau is trying to go to a twice a year release of Tiger. They are calling this one, the 2004 first edition, which means the second edition of 2004 should come out in May.

Charles Hickman, US Geological Survey (USGS), we have been working with Indiana to put the Indiana face on the National Map Viewer. It let's you access web-mapping services that are OGC (Open GIS Consortium) compliant and we are working to get Michigan Framework added to that list. The work that we are doing with Indiana is being customized for the State. We will be able to share that with other states. It would start up with the bounding box and you would have some control over what layers you want initially and what web-mapping services you might want. You could add county sites as well.

Rob (CGI), we would like to highlight and promote those communities who are participating with the state effort and give them a lot of credit.

Charlie (USGS), there is a States Geographic Information Council meeting in March.

XIV. Other Issues

Kathleen (MSU), two more committee members on that IMAGIN newsletter committee, Susan Moore and Frank Sobey.

Joyce (MDOT), one other thing to mention is that we have worked with MDNR to collect the GPS (Global Position System) coordinates for all of the state park roads, boat launch sites and harborages. This will be coming over to CGI for possible inclusion in Version 6.

XV. Next Meeting Date

March 3, 2005, 10 a.m. until 12 p.m., Michigan Center for Geographic Information,
George W. Romney Building, 111 S. Capitol, 10th Floor, Lansing, MI 48933